(i) The industries which fail to relocate and opt for closure shall pay 6 years of wages to the workmen as "additional compensation" instead of one year. However, the workers who refuse to be relocated alongwith the industries shall be entitled for one year of wages only as "additional compensation".

(ii) Workmen occupying residential quarters provided by the employers shall continue to occupy the premises till alternate premises is provided at the relocated site by the employer. In case of closure of the unit, workers may continue at the present residential premises provided by the employer for 1 ½ years. In case the employer wants to compensate them in lieu of occupation of quarter, they shall pay a sum of Rs.20,000/- to each of the workmen for asking them for immediate vacation. It would be open to the management to pay the amount in instalments but the total amount along with the other compensation must be paid before April 30, 1997. As the stipulated deadline in the modified direction of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 4.12.96 is not yet over, the question of receipt of representation for non payment of service benefits does not arise.

Loss to Hindustan Copper Limited

2064. LT. GENERAL SHRI PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loss incurred by the Hindustan Copper Limited during April-November, 1996;

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the above organisation has sought a short term loan from the Government to meet the loss;

(d) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by the Government to release the amount;

(e) whether the Hindustan Copper Limited has requested the Government to raise the Customs duty on Copper; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL) suffered a net loss of Rs. 99.32 crores during April-November,96 mainly due to substantial fall in LME price of copper, reduction in Customs Duty on copper and hike in Petroleum Price and Railway freight in the last Central Budget.

(c) to (f) In view of the loss incurred by the Hindustan Copper Limited, the Company had requested for increase in Custom Duty on copper and had also asked for Budgetary support for payment of wages and salaries and to meet the Plan expenditure. The matter was taken up by the Ministry of Mines with Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission and a provision of Rs.13 cores has been made to meet the Plan expenditure in the Budget Estimates for 1997-98.

Expansion of Airports in Karnataka

2065. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for the expansion of the existing airports in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof and when these airports are likely to be expanded;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the present length of the runway of all airports in Karnataka;

(e) the airports in Karnataka equipped with modern equipments; and

(f) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Construction of new integrated international block at an estimated cost of Rs.13.70 crores at Bangalore airport is likely to be completed in April, 1998. There is a proposal to construct a new runway of dimensions 8000 ft. x 150 ft. alongwith associated facilities at Mangalore airport to operate AB-300 class of aircraft during 9th Plan period. In addition, development of Hassan airport for operation of 50 seater aircraft is part of the plan. Further, upgradation of Hubli and Belgaum airports would be taken up in the Ninth Plan period, subject to availability of funds.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Runway length of airports in Karnataka are as under (1) Bangalore (HAL): 10850 ft. (ii) Belgaum : 5785 ft. (iii) : Hubli : 4535 ft. (iv) Mangalore : 5800 ft. (v) Mysore: 4400 ft. (fair weather strip) and (vi) Hassan: 3950 ft. (Kutcha strip).

(e) and (f) Bangalore and Mangalore are equipped with navigational aids such as Very High Frequency Omni Range, Distance Measuring Equipment. instrument Landing System and night landing facilities like High Intensity runway lights, Precision Approach Path Indicator, Apron Flood lights, and Obstruction Lights. Hubli has a non-directional beacon and Belgaum has non-directional beacon, doppler VOR, Distance Measuring Equipment, Precision approach path indicator and VHF Communication equipment.

[*Translation*]

Fault Control

2066. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of computers purchased to work on "fault control" under various General Managers of MTNL, Delhi during the last three years;